

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 /085 W

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R 171452Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9413

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7981

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, MX, UN

SUBJ: MEXICAN-ISRAELI RELATONS: ANOTHER "MISUNDERSTANDING"

REF: TEL AVIV 7863

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. ISRAELIS ARE AGAIN EXERCISED OVER MEXICAN VOTE FOR UNGA RESOLUTION CONTAINING ANTI-ZIONIST OVERTONES. MEXICO IS SHARING PUBLIC CRITICISM WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, IN PARTICULAR FONMIN ALLON, WHO APPARENTLY KNEW IN ADVANCE WHAT MEXICAN VOTE WOULD BE BUT FAILED TO INFORM PRESS, KNESSET, OR ISRAEL'S UN AMBASSADOR. END SUMMARY.

2. ONLY TWO WEEKS AFTER APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL VISIT BY MEXICAN FONMIN RABASA, ISRAELI RELATIONS WITH MEXICO ARE AGAIN IN SPOTLIGHT IN WAKE OF MEXICAN VOTE IN FAVOR OF UN RESOLUTION TAKING NOTE OF DECLARATION ADOPTED BY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE IN MEXICO CITY EARLIER THIS YEAR. DECLARATION, OF COURSE, CONTAINED OVERTONES OF ANTI-ZIONISM.

3. JERUSALEM POST DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT REPORTS THAT TO "OFFICIALS IN JERUSALEM", HOWEVER, THE MEXICAN VOTE WAS NO SURPRISE AND WAS PRECISELY WHAT HAD BEEN AGREED UPON  
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DURING RECNET "CONCILIATORY VISIT" BY MEXICAN FONMIN

RABASA. ACCORDING TO POST, HE HAD EXPLAINED WHILE HERE THAT, SINCE HIS COUNTRY HAD HOSTED WOMEN'S YEAR CONFERENCE AND HAD CO-SPONSORED RESULTING DECLARATION, IT COULD NOT OPPOSE RESOLUTION. HE REPORTEDLY GAVE ASSURANCES, HOWEVER, THAT MEXICAN DELEGATE WOULD DISASSOCIATE MEXICO FROM ANTI-ZIONIST ASPECT OF RESOLUTION AND THAT IN FUTURE MEXICO WOULD ABSTAIN ON ANY ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTIONS. POST STORY POINTS OUT THAT FONMIN ALLON APPARENTLY FAILED TO INFORM EITHER KNESSET FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OR ISRAELI UN AMBASSADOR HERZOG OF UNDERSTANDING REACHED WITH RABASA.

4. PRESS WAS ALSO UNINFORMED, AND HAS BEEN HIGHLY CRITICAL BOTH OF MEXICAN VOTE AND MFA'S HANDLING OF AFFAIRS. HAARETZ EDITORIAL STATES THAT "THIS VOTE CASTS A HEAVY SHADOW ON THE MEXICAN LEADERS...BUT FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON ALSO DESERVES TO BE SEVERELY CRITICIZED...NOW THAT IT HAS BECOME CLEAR...THAT HIS GUEST (THE MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER) DID NOT CONCEAL FROM HIM THE FACT THAT MEXICO WOULD VOTE THE WAY IT DID...IT IS CLEAR THAT THE BLAME DOES NOT LIE ENTIRELY WITH THE MEXICAN SIDE...WE ARE SHAMED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN'S ADMISSION THAT ALLON 'WAS NOT SURPRISED' AT THE VOTE..."

5. MAARIV EDITORIAL ALSO DIRECTS ITS CRITICISM AT THE MFA, CALLING THE EXPLANATIONS GIVEN IN JERUSALEM FOR THE MEXICAN VOTE "ASTONISHING". THE EDITORIAL WONDERS WHETHER THE MFA ISSUED OTHER "PERMITS" TO COUNTRIES WISHING TO SLANDER ISRAEL AND ASKS "HAVE WE REACHED THE STAGE WHERE THE JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN AMERICA ...ARE GUARDING THE JEWISH HONOR ABANDONED BY THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY?....."

6. DAVAR EDITORIAL TAKES A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT LINE. IT WRITES THAT, ALTHOUGH THE VOTE WAS RECEIVED WITH DISAPPOINTMENT BOTH HERE AND AMONG THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN THE US, "MEXICO VIOLATED NO PROMISES MADE TO ISRAEL DURING THE VISIT OF THE MEXICAN FONMIN IN ISRAEL...IT IS DOUBTFUL WHETHER ONE CAN COMPLAIN AGAINST THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER TO SHOW MORE RESTRAINT IN THE FRIENDLY EXCHANGES WITH THE GUEST...BUT MORE SURPRISING IS THE SPEED OF SOME OF THE JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN AMERICA TO AGREE TO MEET WITH THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT...EVEN BEFORE DEC 15 VOTE

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7. INTENSITY OF INITIAL ISRAELI REACTION TO MEXICAN VOTE IS FURTHER REFLECTED IN FACT THAT LABOR ALIGNMENT KNESSET MEMBER HAS PROPOSED MOTION FOR AGENDA ON "LIES ECHEVERRIA HAS TOLD US".

8. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL CONFIRMED TO PRESS AFTER VOTE THAT FONMIN RABASA HAD TOLD ISRAELI OFFICIALS DURING

HIS VISIT THAT MEXICO WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO VOTE  
IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION ARISING FROM CONFERENCE THAT IT HOSTED,  
BUT THAT MEXICAN DEL WOULD DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM IDENTIFYING  
ZIONISM AS A FORM OF RACISM. HE ADDED THAT MOST OF RESOLUTION'S 35  
PARAGRAPHS "WERE VERY IMPORTANT FOR MEXICAN FOREIGN AND INTERNAL  
POLICY". END UNCLASSIFIED.

9. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: COMMENT: REAL LOSER FROM THIS LATEST  
DEVELOPMENT WOULD APPEAR TO BE FONMIN ALLON, WHO APPARENTLY  
WAS PRIVY TO MEXICAN INTENTIONS AS RESULT OF RABASA VISIT-WITH WHICH  
HE WAS PERSONALLY IDENTIFIED. ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS,  
JOURNALISTS WHO GOT WIND OF PRIOR ISRAELI ACQUIESCENCE IN LATEST MEXI  
CAN  
VOTE WERE ASKED TO REFRAIN FROM PRINTING IT TO AVOID EMBARRASSING  
MEXICANS. WHATEVER TRUE FACTS OF MATTER MAY BE, FAILURE TO BE CANDID  
WITH ISRAELI PUBLIC ON ISSUE OF SUCH HIGH EMOTIONAL CONTENT  
WILL NOT ENHANCE ALLON'S IMAGE.

10. WE ASSUME THAT GOI'S REACTION HAS BEEN TEMPERED SOMEWHAT  
BY ISRAEL'S KEEN INTEREST IN MEXICAN CRUDE OIL AS PARTIAL  
ALTERNATIVE TO PRESENT HEAVY RELIANCE ON IRANIAN CRUDE.  
MEXICO IS NOW SUPPLYING MODEST AMOUNT OF OIL TO ISRAEL AND HAS  
PROMISED TO SUPPLY GREATER QUANTITY IN FUTURE AS MEXICAN EXPORT  
SURPLUS INCREASES.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONCILIATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, ZIONISM, UNGA RESOLUTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975TELAV07981  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750438-1087  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 TEL AVIV 7863  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEXICAN-ISRAELI RELATONS: ANOTHER "MISUNDERSTANDING"  
**TAGS:** PFOR, IS, MX, UN, (RABASA MISHKIN, EMILIO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006